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## Assisting the Vulnerable Conflict-Affected in Darfur

Funded by USAID/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance

South Darfur, Sudan



### Ninth Quarterly Report 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2012

COUNTRY CONTACT	HEADQUARTERS CONTACT	PROGRAM SUMMARY	
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Country Director	Senior Program Officer	Start Date	May 31, 2011
House No. 19/1, Block No. 13	45 SW Ankeny Street	End Date	October 31, 2012
Riyadh, Khartoum, Sudan	Portland, Oregon 97204 USA	Report Date	October 31, 2012
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## **1. Overview**

### **Security**

According to the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) Sudan Humanitarian Weekly update for September 2012, sporadic fighting continued in some parts of Darfur, resulting in new civilian displacement. More than 1,500 people were newly displaced in Eastern Jebel Marra, Darfur. Meanwhile, returns were reported in other parts of Darfur and, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 39,500 refugees returned to areas of origin in Darfur between January 2011 and June 2012. During the same period, 165,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) returns took place. Humanitarian organizations have some level of access to the majority of people requiring humanitarian assistance in Darfur. However, they continue to face constraints. These include government restrictions, insecurity, bureaucratic impediments, poor infrastructure, and self-imposed UN security procedures. The security of the people of Darfur and international aid agencies remains unpredictable and the curfew continues from 5 pm to 8:30 am. According to OCHA, insecurity affects aid activities in Darfur, as humanitarian staff were affected by increased criminality throughout the Darfur region. This included office burglary, carjacking and attacks on commercial vehicles. The program continued to focus in this quarter on Dereige, Sakaly, Elserief camps and Abga Rajel rural area targeting IDPs and host communities for the delivery of water, sanitation and hygiene promotion services and livelihood activities.

### **Program Implementation**

Mercy Corps Scotland (MCS) continued implementing Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activities in addition to Agriculture and Food Security (AFS) and Economic Recovery and Market System (ERMS) activities in the three IDP camps including Dereige, Sakaly, Elserief camps, and in the Abga Rajel rural area.

For WASH, the project is focusing on improving access to safe drinking water, safe access to sanitation facilities, promoting improved hygiene practices, and increasing participation of communities by conducting capacity building trainings. The project involved the community in planning, implementation, decision-making and management of water and sanitation services. The project encourages the use of environmentally friendly construction practices and monitoring of ground water levels and water quality in the targeted areas. The WASH and agriculture and food security activities are integrated to ensure water availability and sustainability in the demonstration gardens and in the household vegetable farms. During the month of July, MCS conducted a market assessment and value chain analysis to understand the market structure and dynamics in South Darfur.

From the 9 to 18 of October 2012, MCS has conducted a KAP survey in the three IDP camps (including Dereige, Sakaly, Elserief and Abga Rajel). The survey aimed to evaluate the progress and impact of the program.

## **2. Program Accomplishments**

### **Sector 1: WASH**

#### **Sub-sector 1.1: Water Supply**

During this quarter, MCS continued to support the running and maintenance of seven motorized water systems in Dereige, Sakaly, and Elserif camps and provided approximately a total of 577 cubic meters of safe drinking water per day benefiting 50,178 IDPs. The results of the October 2012 KAP survey by project staff revealed that on average 17.2 liters of water are available per person per day in three camps and 18.4 liters per person per day in the Abga Rajel area.



The sector continued water quality analysis (bacteriological and free residual chlorine tests) in the three camps. A total of 77 samples collected from water points showed 0% *E. coli* bacteria, while 80 (89%) out of 90 samples collected from water collection containers (jerry cans) were free of bacteria. A total of 60 (67%) out of 90 samples collected from water storage containers were free of bacteria.

The results of free chlorine tests for water point samples showed 2,358 samples with adequate levels of chlorine exceeding 0.2 mg/l. The results also revealed that 2,069 (95%) out of 2,180 samples collected from water collection containers showed an average of adequate levels of chlorine (0.1 - 0.3 mg/l). The Free Residual Chlorine (FRC) samples collected from the household water storage containers (clay pots) showed that 1,785 (85%) out of 2,099 samples also had average levels of adequate chlorine (0.1 – 0.3 mg/l). The levels of residual chlorine in the water collection containers and households are improved as a result of the intensified public hygiene campaign activities and cleaning of jerry cans and water clay pots.

#### **Sub-sector 1.2: Sanitation**

During this quarter, MCS continued implementing new construction, rehabilitation and replacement of latrines in the project areas. All materials for casting latrine slabs, construction and rehabilitation were provided by MCS, while volunteer hygiene promoters mobilised the communities, both women and men, to participate in the installation and management of their own sanitation infrastructure.

MCS also supported vulnerable families in Dereige, Sakaly, and Elserif camps and Abga Rajel villages by providing bathing facilities and constructing a permanent school latrine and hand washing facilities for a school in Dereige camp to promote sanitation practices.

#### **Sub-sector 1.3: Hygiene Promotion**

To promote hygiene, the project reached out to communities, including women, men and children, with messages to demonstrate safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene practices. During this quarter, three Children's Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (CHAST) and Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) trainings were conducted for 34 schools teachers (7 men and 27 women) and two trainings for 27 hygiene promoters (16 women and 11 men) on CHAST and PHAST in Dereige,

Sakay, and Elserif camps. The activities focused on reducing high risk practices, promoting hand washing practices, appropriate use and maintenance of latrines, and safe handling of drinking water through various channels such as home to home visits, water dialogues, open days, and jerry can cleaning exercises in the three IDP camps and Abga Rajel areas.

#### **Sub-sector 1.4: Environmental Health**

During this quarter, MCS focused on the prevention of acute watery diarrhoea during the rainy season. A total of 158 women were trained on conducting acute watery diarrhoea trainings and preparation of oral rehydration solutions and 155 people (130 women and 25 men) were trained on vector control and environmental initiatives.



Six areas were sprayed for adult mosquitoes and 12 breeding sites were treated to reduce the density of the mosquitoes and prevalence of malaria in the three camps. Hygiene promoters mobilized the community to participate in environmental modification and drainage control to reduce the prevalence of water related diseases. MCS supported the community by providing cleaning tools and donkey carts to transport the waste, while the community participated in cleaning their houses and public places.

### **Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security**

#### **Sub-sector 2.1: Seed Systems and Agricultural Inputs**

MCS continued implementing the AFS activities aimed to improve access to agriculture and food security outputs for the conflict affected populations in South Darfur. The main activities during the quarter included following up on the seed fair's beneficiaries, training of farmers on various agriculture topics, and running the demonstration gardens. The activities continued implementation in the three camps of Deriege, Sakaly and Elserif as well as the Abga Rajel rural areas.

MC Scotland conducted follow up visits to the seed fair beneficiaries in all program areas. The beneficiaries received three types of seeds including groundnuts, sorghum and millet. The beneficiaries were monitored to see whether they planted the seeds they received during the seed fairs and to assess how the crops were performing in the fields. The follow up exercise revealed that all farmers who received seed had planted and the crops were performing very well. This result was given to the fact that the farmers received the seed in good time and there was sufficient rain during this years' planting season. The yields are expected to be very good and already some famers have started harvesting their crops. According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Sudan's cereal production this year is anticipated to be slightly above average due to good rains.





### ***Seed fair beneficiaries' fields***

During the past quarter, MCS continued conducting farmer training on seed storage and preservation and 350 farmers, including 258 women, were trained in the three camps and the Abga Rajel area. Seven training sessions, two days each, were conducted to equip farmers with the knowledge and skills on how to store and preserve their agricultural produce. The farmers were taught the economic value of storing their grain, the different types of storage pests and their control, different storage methods, and the different seed treatment methods. The training sessions were jointly constructed by facilitators from the Ministry of Agriculture and MCS staff. The total number of farmers trained on seed storage and preservation was 650 farmers, including 465 women.

MCS also conducted farmer training on waste recycling and 151 farmers, including 108 women, were trained in the Abga Rajel area. Three training sessions, two days each, were conducted on compost pit preparation and briquette making. The pits are used to make organic manure from household and farm waste for gardens to improve soil fertility and agricultural productivity. The briquettes are made from household and farm waste to use as fuel for cooking. This will reduce the need for firewood and tree cutting. The training sessions were jointly facilitated by the Ministry of Agriculture and MCS staff. The total number of farmers trained on waste recycling was 451 farmers, including 302 women.

MCS continued to maintain the three vegetable and tree nursery demonstration gardens in Elserif camp, Abga Rajel East, and Abga Rajel West. The gardens are being used for demonstrations and training sites for the surrounding farming communities. Community members are allowed to come into the gardens twice a week and harvest the vegetables for their own consumption. The demo gardens are demonstrating different technologies, including agronomic practices of the different vegetable crops, bucket drip irrigation, vegetable and tree nursery management, soil fertility, and water management.



Training of farmers on vegetable

gardening/tree planting continued during the past quarter and 240 farmers (70 men and 170 women) in the three camps and Abga Rajel were trained in six training sessions that were two days each. The training mainly focused on vegetable and tree nursery management including vegetable/tree nursery establishment and management, nursery records and record keeping plus marketing of vegetable/tree nursery seedlings. The training was conducted in collaboration with the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry which provided the training facilitators from the Horticulture Department. The total number of farmers trained on vegetable gardening and tree planting was 320 farmers, including 207 women. All the farmers trained in vegetable gardening & tree planting received four fruit tree seedlings each (two guava seedlings and two lime seedlings) for planting at their homes.



***Backyard vegetable gardens for IDP farmers supported by the project***

During the past quarter a new set of farmers were identified and selected for training in vegetable production. MCS conducted eleven training sessions of two days each resulting in 550 farmers trained in vegetable production. The trained farmers were also supported with vegetable production kits including seeds and tools. The total number of farmers trained on vegetable production stands at 1,349 farmers, including 1,072 women. Distribution of vegetable production kits including seeds and tools to the trained 550 vegetable farmers continued. MCS conducted monitoring visits to the earlier trained and supported vegetable production farmers. Most of the beneficiaries that were visited reported to be consuming the vegetables at a household level and some farmers are selling the surplus vegetables to boost household income. Others are preserving the vegetables by drying them for consumption during the dry season when vegetable supplies are low.





*Farmers with their vegetable harvest*



*Drying okra for dry season consumption*

### **Sector 3: Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)**

#### **Sub-sector 3.1: Economic Asset Development**

During the past quarter MCS continued with the implementation of ERMS activities which are aimed at improving business skills and income generation opportunities for vulnerable households. The activities included training beneficiaries on vocational skills in carpentry, blacksmith and mobile repair and maintenance; and business skills training for entrepreneurs. The activities are being implemented for beneficiaries in the three camps plus the Abga Rajel rural areas.

A total of 14 out of 21 beneficiaries graduated after successfully completing a three month vocational training course in mobile repair and maintenance at Nyala Technical College. The graduates were supported with tool kits to enable them to start work and offer services in mobile repair and mobile charging. Seven beneficiaries never completed the course due to moving out of Nyala to pursue formal education or



going back to their places of origin for farming because of the current planting season. The total number of graduates in mobile repair and maintenance is 29 beneficiaries. MCS followed up on five of the graduates and all of them had found work. They are repairing and charging mobile phones and their daily income ranges from 20 to 35 SDGs. One vocational training course in carpentry had 15 trainees continue. Another

course for blacksmiths with 15 trainees started at the Nyala Technical School. The trainees are being equipped with the knowledge and skills to improve the quality of their products, to establish/develop their businesses, or search for employment.

During the quarter, MCS followed up on a number of the first batch of blacksmith vocational training graduates. Eleven out of the fifteen graduates were already working producing products like beds and windows. The blacksmiths reported a daily income of 25–50 SDGs. Seven graduates in carpentry were monitored and three of them were found working producing cupboards, wooden chairs and tables. They reported a daily income of 10–25 SDGs. Other graduates are reported to be working outside Nyala area.



***Carpentry graduate product***



***Blacksmith graduate products***

MCS continued with business skills training and eight five-day training sessions for 280 entrepreneurs. Sixteen of the trained facilitators were utilized in facilitating the training of the entrepreneurs in business skills. The trainings were conducted to enhance the entrepreneurs' business skills. The entrepreneurs were selected from the three camps plus Abga Rajel areas.

### **Sub-sector 3.2: Temporary Employment**

For temporary employment, MCS staff selected three camp coordinators (one in each camp) to supervise the community volunteer hygiene promoters and water chlorinators, technicians, and pump operators and followed up with them in the implementation of WASH activities in Dereige, Sakaly and Elsereif camps. Additionally, MCS staff selected one camp coordinator for AFS/ERMS activities to monitor the demonstration garden activities in Elsereif camp. A total of 260 individuals have been employed on cash for work in the three demonstration gardens for the past three months.

### **Cross-cutting Issues**

#### **a. Environment**

The program's impact on the environment was considered during the implementation of the program activities. The team used environmentally friendly materials for the construction and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, the rehabilitation of water points and the demonstration gardens to promote best environmental practices. The team encouraged IDP and host communities to plant trees and vegetables near the water sources (hand-pumps and tap stands) using stagnant water. The sector also ensured water protection from contamination by human feces by promoting adequate disposal of



human feces in the sanitation facilities and proper waste management. During the past quarter, 240 farmers were trained on tree planting and were given four fruit tree seedlings for planting at their homes.

### **b. Gender**

To ensure that gender issues were addressed, men, women and children participated in the decision making and management of program infrastructure. This was conducted through AFS/ERMS trainings, information of WASH committees, community hygiene promoters and school clubs to strengthen capacity

### **c. Capacity Building**

MCS implemented trainings during this quarter to strengthen the capacity of the beneficiaries to sustain sanitation and hygiene promotion activity in schools. This also enabled the community to participate and manage the WASH services in the three camps and Abga Rajel area. The project provided seven trainings on water management for 90 people (42 women and 48 men), four ground water sessions for 40 men, and three water management trainings for three WASH committees for 45 people (15 women and 30 men) in the project areas.



**Water management training for WASH committee in Sakaly camp**

### **3. Transition Strategy**

The community-based operation and maintenance workshop was postponed for further consultation with UNICEF/WES main offices in Khartoum. The decision was made to organize the workshop with IDP community leaders and encourage them to decide what percentage the community should contribute for the operation and maintenance of the water systems, rather than leave the decision to the WASH agencies.

## **Coordination**

UNICEF/WES continued coordinating WASH activities in Nyala South Darfur. Bi-weekly WASH coordination meetings were conducted with UNICEF/WES to share information and ensure the smooth implementation of activities. MCS also supported the Ministry of Health to implement acute watery diarrhoea training and vector control spraying. In the AFS and ERMS sectors, MCS staff coordinated with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Horticulture Department, FAO, WFP, Nyala University, Nyala Technical College and Nyala Technical School. Monthly and weekly reports are being submitted to WES, UNICEF, OCHA and HAC.

## **4. Challenges**

Movement is restricted to program areas due to insecurity and demonstrations in Nyala Town.

Baseline data – 8Quarterly Data											
Locations and Number of People per Location:		Dereige 28,514		Sakaly 15,035		Elsereif 13,758		AR East 746		AR West 4,952	
Sector 1:	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)										
Objective:	Conflict Affected populations have increased access to quality water supply, appropriate sanitation facilities, and improved hygiene practices	Baseline	9QR	Baseline	9QR	Baseline	9QR	Baseline	9QR	Baseline	9QR
N. of Benef. Targeted:	74,690										
N. of Direct Benef. Targeted:	50,178										
Sub-Sector Name:	Environmental Health										
Indicator 1:	Number of community clean-up/debris removal activities conducted	2	3	2	3	0	3	0	2	0	2
Indicator 2:	Number of vector-borne disease environmental control activities implemented	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Indicator 3:	Number of bathing facilities completed	Q8- 173	321	Q8- 210	164	Q8- 193	65	Q8-0	175	Q8-0	95
Sub-Sector Name:	Water Supply										
Indicator 1:	Number and percent of household water supplies with 0 coliform bacteria per 100 ml	Q8-5703 100%	3422 (60%)	Q8-3007 100%	1213 (76.7%)	Q8-2752 100%	1742 (63.3%)	0	0	0	0
Indicator 2:	Average water usage of target population in litres per person per day prior to and after interventions	8.2	20	7.5	16.6	6.3	14.9	15	15.4	20	21.4
Indicator 3:	Number and percent of water points with measurable chlorine residual exceeding 0.2 mg/l	15	15 100%	4 60%	4 100%	15 70%	16 100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Sanitation</b>										
Indicator 1:	<i>Number and percent of household latrines completed that are clean and in use in compliance with Sphere</i>	207 36%	3467 60.8	130 35%	1068 67.6%	100 80%	1847 67.1%	84 42%	91 61%	0	752 76%
Indicator 2:	<i>Number and percent of household hand-washing facilities completed and in use</i>	513 89%	5475 96%	242 20%	1524 96.4%	213 48%	2752 100%	95%	144 96.7%	90%	990 100%
Indicator 3:	<i>Number and percent of households disposing of solid waste appropriately</i>	570- 10%	2960 51.9%	242 20%	1007 63.7%	1376 5%	1847 67.1%	0	103 68.9%	0	363 36.7%
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Hygiene Promotion / Behaviors</b>										
Indicator 1:	<i>Percent of target population demonstrating good hand-washing practices</i>	6%	20843 73.1%	7%	5574 70.5%	4%	9232 67.1%	54%	439 58.9%	67%	3466 70%
Indicator 2:	<i>Percent of target population demonstrating correct water usage and storage</i>	<b>Q8-67.8%</b>	18220 63.9.%	<b>Q7-62%</b>	5368 67.9%	<b>Q7-67%</b>	7498 54.5%	21%	323 43.3%	20%	2565 51.8%
Indicator 3:	<i>Number and percent of clean water points functioning three months after completion</i>	0	15 100%	2	4 100%	1	14 87.5%	0		0	

<b>Sector 2:</b>	<b>Agriculture and Food Security (AFS)</b>										
<b>Main Objective:</b>	<i>Conflict-Affected populations have improved access to agriculture and food security</i>										
<b>Number of Beneficiaries Targeted:</b>	23,000										
<b>Number of IDP Beneficiaries</b>	17,400										
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Seed Systems and Agricultural Inputs</b>										

Indicator 1:	<i>(Projected) increase in number of months of food self-sufficiency due to distributed seed systems/agricultural input for beneficiary families</i>	33% <i>More than 3 months</i>	-	100% <i>More than 3 months</i>	-	33% <i>More than 3 months</i>	-	0% <i>More than 3 months</i>	-	0% <i>More than 3 months</i>	-
Indicator 2:	<i>Number of people benefiting from seed systems/agricultural input activities</i>	350	300	150	300	0	300	600	400	600	400
No. of beneficiaries trained	<i>Vegetable Production and drip irrigation</i>	0	150	0	350	0	50	0	0	0	0
No. of beneficiaries	<i>Seed fairs and seed vouchers</i>	0	300	0	300	0	300	0	400	0	400
No. of beneficiaries trained	<i>Seed storage and preservation</i>	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	100
No. of beneficiaries trained	<i>Vegetable gardening/ tree planting training</i>	0	0	0	0	0	80	0	103	0	57
No. of beneficiaries trained	<i>Waste recycling (compost pit preparation and briquette making)</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	100
Sector 3:	<i>Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)</i>										
Main Objective:	<i>Conflict-Affected populations have improved economic asset and market development and restoration and microfinance</i>										
Number of Beneficiaries Targeted:	7,720										
Number of IDP Beneficiaries Targeted:	7,055										

<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Economic Asset Development</b>										
Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people assisted through economic asset development activities</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indicator 2:	<i>Number and percent of people utilizing economic assets created to support their livelihood pattern</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of beneficiaries	<i>Training in Carpentry</i>	0	6	0	7	0	2	0	0	0	0
No. beneficiaries	<i>Training in Mobile repair and maintenance</i>	0	9	0	8	0	2	-	1	-	1
No. of beneficiaries	<i>Training in Blacksmith</i>	0	6	0	7	0	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Temporary Employment</b>										
Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people employed through Cash-for-Work (CFW) activities</i>	-	0	-	0	-	90	-	85	-	85
Indicator 2:	<i>Average USD amount per person earned through the Cash-for-Work (CFW) activities</i>	5 SDG	0	24.5 SDG	0	13 SDG	15SDG	21 SDG	15 SDG	0	15 SDG
Indicator 3:	<i>Number and percent of women employed through Cash-for-Work (CFW) activities</i>	(88) 91%	0	(30) 52%	0	(29) 50%	90%	(4) 25%	70%	0	70%